

TITLE

Calla Lily Plant Named 'Crackerjack'

GENUS AND SPECIES

[0001] *Zantedeschia* spp.

VARIETY DENOMINATION

[0002] 'Crackerjack'

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

[0003] The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of calla lily, botanically known as *Zantedeschia* spp, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Crackerjack'. The new cultivar is asexually reproduced from vegetative cuttings and tissue culture resulting from the cross of the female parent 'Sunglow' (patent status unknown) and the male parent is an unnamed seedling from the Bloomz breeding pool.

[0004] 'Crackerjack' is a product of a planned breeding program intended to create new calla lily plants with red spathes.

[0005] The new cultivar was created in 2000 in Tauranga New Zealand and has been asexually reproduced repeatedly by vegetative cuttings and tissue culture in New Zealand over a 3 year period. The present invention has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive propagations; and this novelty is firmly fixed.

DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPH

[0006] This new calla lily plant is illustrated by the accompanying photographs which show blooms, buds, and foliage of the plant in full color, the colors shown being as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

[0007] FIG 1 shows the mature inflorescence;
FIG 2 shows the overall plant habit;
FIG 3 shows a close-up of the leaf.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

[0008] The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive characteristics of 'Crackerjack'. The data that defines these characteristics were collected from asexual

reproductions carried out in New Zealand. The plant history was taken on 2 year old plants based on a 3 cm diameter tuber under New Zealand Summer conditions. Color references are primarily to the RHS Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (RHS).

THE PLANT

[0009] Classification:

Botanical: *Zantedeschia* spp.

Commercial: Calla lily

Variety: 'Crackerjack'

[0010] Size

Form: Erect

Height of the leaf canopy above the soil: 25-40 cm

Height of top of inflorescence above the soil: 30-40 cm

Diameter: 20-30 cm

Number of inflorescence per tuber size:

Tuber diameter 3 cm	2-3
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Tuber diameter 4 cm	3-5
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Tuber diameter 5 cm	4-7
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[0011] Branches

Character: Strong

Color: Upper is green RHS 146C; lower is green RHS 146D; base is white RHS 155B

Average Number: 3-5

[0012] Leaves

Size: Width 6-8 cm; length 14-20 cm

Shape: Ovate

Color: Upper is green RHS 137B; lower is green RHS 137C

Maculation (leaf spots): Medium density; white RHS 155C

Apex: Acute to apiculate

Margin: Moderately wavy

Margin Color: Yellow-Green RHS 137B

Veins: Pinnate

Surface Quality: Leathery

[0013] *Petiole (leaf stalk)*

Length: 15-22 cm

Color: Base is Green RHS 144A; upper is green RHS 144A

[0014] *Roots*

Color: White

Branching: Not branched, attached to the top of the tuber at the apices

Disease resistance: No susceptibility noted to date

Pest resistance: No susceptibility noted to date

THE INFLORESCENCE

[0015] *Spathe (flower body)*

Size: Length 6-8 cm; width 4-5 cm

Color: Upper is Dark red RHS 59A ; lower is red RHS 46B

Veins: Present, red RHS 47A

Shape: Cupped

[0016] *Spadix (reproductive organs)*

Size: Length 2-3 cm; diameter 0.5-0.7 cm

Color: Base is green RHS 145A; Upper is dark red RHS 60C

Position relative to spathe: Upright

[0017] *Peduncle (flower stem)*

Size: 30-40 cm

Color: Base is White RHS 155B; upper is green RHS 146B

[0018] *Reproductive organs*

Location of female organs: Basal position of the spadix

Location of male organs: Upper position of the spadix

Perianth (the floral envelope - calyx and corolla) Conspicuous

Stamens: Not visible before pollen release

Pistil: 16-20 per spadix; green

[0019] *Miscellaneous*

Time to produce a finished flowering plant: 6-8 weeks.

Lastingness: 1-3 weeks.

Fragrance: None

Fruit: None

Production: 16-20 berries

Color: Predominantly dark red RHS 60A

COMPARISON WITH KNOWN CULTIVARS

[0020] When the instant plant is compared to 'Pink Pot' (co-pending U. S. Patent application Serial No. 10/382,759) 'Crackerjack' has a courser maculation on the leaves and a flower color that is more "brick" red instead of bright pink. Additionally, the color of the leaves is darker green and has a slight gloss over the leaves.

[0021] When the instant plant is compared to the female parent, 'Sunglow', 'Crackerjack' has bright red flowers and ovate glossy green foliage.